

REMARKS

In the Outstanding Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-5 and 7. Claims 1 and 2 have been amended and a new claim 8 has been added. Claims 1-5 and 7-8 are now pending and submitted for consideration. Support for the amendments may be found throughout the specification of the original application. The following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response to the Outstanding Action.

SECTION 102 REJECTIONS

Claims 1-2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bletscher, Jr., et al., U.S. Patent No: 5,070,495 (hereinafter Bletscher).

Claim 1 recites an optical power calibration method for calibrating a writing power of an optical storage carrier player. The optical storage carrier player comprises an access device for writing data onto an optical storage carrier. The optical storage carrier comprises a first power calibration area, a data storage area, and a last possible lead-out area. The last possible lead-out area is located outside the data storage area. A second power calibration area is set close to an outer edge of the storage carrier. A starting point of the second power calibration area is outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area. Before writing the data in the data storage area, a writing condition of the data in the data storage area is determined. Depending on the determined writing condition in the data storage area, the optical power calibration process is performed either, in the first power calibration area when the writing condition being within a predetermined condition, or in the second power calibration area when the writing condition being out of the predetermined condition to determine a calibrated writing power.

Bletscher discloses a write calibration for magneto-optic disc recorders. FIG 4 of Bletscher shows a portion of magneto-optic disc. Referring to col. 8, lines 45-60 in Bletscher,

"a plurality of duration adjustments are made at the radially displaced tracks 110, 111, 112, 113 and 114." However, Bletscher fails to disclose a last possible lead-out area located outside the data storage area and fails to disclose setting a second power calibration area having a starting point outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area.

FIG. 6 of Bletscher shows a calibration flow diagram. In the first step, the machine moves to seek for an innermost track, e.g. track 110. An initial adjustment is performed at the innermost track (also referring to col 10, lines 6-14). In steps 173-175 of Bletscher, the calibration is iteratively performed. FIG. 5 of Bletscher illustrates a symmetry detector and feedback control used during the calibration process. Referring to col. 8, lines 62-65 in Bletscher, the readback data signal amplifier 85 (also see FIG 2) supplies the readback signal through an equalizer circuit 120 to data detector 121. Both circuits 120 and 121 are a portion of data circuits 75." Further referring to col.8, lines 3-5, "The amplifier 85 supplies the resulting difference signal (data representing) to data circuits 75 for detection. The detected signals include not only data that is recorded but also all of the so-called ancillary signals as well." That is, Bletscher discloses a calibration method performing from the innermost track iterative to the outermost track. The calibration tracks are located within the data storage area and therefore the readback signal including the data that is recorded to the disc.

In the present application, the writing condition is determined before the data is written on the data storage area. And the optical power calibration is performed depending on the determined writing condition. That is, the first power calibration area is used before writing data in the data storage area when the writing condition is within the predetermined condition. Alternatively, the second power calibration area is used before writing data in the data storage area when the writing condition is out of the predetermined condition. This is nowhere taught in the cited art, rather, Bletscher performs calibration sequentially rather than depending on the

determined writing condition. Further, Bletscher discloses the calibration tracks within the data storage rather than a second power calibration area outside the last possible lead-out area.

Based on the above discussion, Bletscher fails to disclose a last possible lead-out area located outside the data storage area, setting second power calibration area having a starting point outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area, and performing an optical power calibration process depending on the determined writing condition in the data storage area before writing the data in the data storage area. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the amended independent claim 1 satisfies the patentability requirement and is allowable.

Claims 2 and 4 respectively depend directly or indirectly on an allowable claim 1 and include further features. Therefore the above claims should be allowable.

ALTERNATIVE REJECTION

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Suga et al., U.S. Patent No: 6,418,102 (hereinafter Suga).

Referring to FIG. 3 and col. 7, lines 36-44 in Suga, "The optical disk 200 includes an entire data area 30 representing an entire area where data is recordable. The entire data area 30 includes a test recording area 31 which is divided into a plurality of test sectors 31 a and a data recording area 32 which is divided into a plurality of data sectors 33." That is, the test sectors 31 are all located within the entire data area 30.

Similar to the above discussion to Bletscher, Suga also fails to disclose a last possible lead-out area located outside the data storage area, setting a second power calibration area having a starting point outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area, and performing an optical power calibration process depending on the determined writing condition in the data storage area before writing the data in the data storage area.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that the amended independent claim 1 satisfies the patentability requirement and is allowable.

Claims 2-5 respectively depend directly or indirectly on an allowable claim 1 and include further features. Therefore the above claims should be allowable.

SECTION 103 REJECTIONS

Claims 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bletscher in view of Suga. Similar to the above discussion, Bletscher and Suga fail to disclose or suggest a last possible lead-out area located outside the data storage area, setting a second power calibration area having a starting point outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area, and performing an optical power calibration process depending on the determined writing condition in the data storage area before writing the data in the data storage area.

Further, claims 3 and 5 respectively depend directly on an allowable claim 1 and include further features. Therefore the above claims should be allowable.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Suga in view of Ikeda et al., U.S. Patent No: 6,067,284 (hereinafter Ikeda) and as being unpatentable over Bletscher in view of Ikeda.

Ikeda discloses a recording medium including a non-user area 236 on the inner side or a non-user area 238 on the outer side for a user area 234 that is allocated to a power adjusting area. However, Ikeda fails to disclose setting a second power calibration area having a starting point outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area. Further, Ikeda also fails to disclose performing an optical power calibration process depending on the determined writing condition in the data storage area before writing the data in the data storage area.

Therefore, Suga and Ikeda and/or Bletscher and Ikeda fail to disclose a last possible lead-out area located outside the data storage area, setting a second power calibration area having a starting point outside a starting point of the last possible lead-out area, and performing an optical power calibration process depending on the determined writing condition in the data storage area before writing the data in the data storage area.

Claim 7 depends directly on an allowable claim 1 and includes further features. Therefore the above claims should be allowable.

The newly added claim 8 depends directly on an allowable claim 1 and includes further features. Therefore the above claims should be allowable.

CONCLUSIONS

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all pending Claims 1-5 and 7-8 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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